

Appendix D

Summary of August 21, 2003 Public Meeting

Progress Report

GS-63-01, Billy Creek Cabins Community, BLM Buffalo Field Office

August 18 – August 22, 2003

Work Accomplished

Hazard Assessments

Jeff Bass and Brooke Levy, Dynamac Corporation, performed a fuels hazard assessment for the Billy Creek Cabins Community, southwest of Buffalo, WY, during the week of August 18, 2003. A total of 20 homes and 10 random fuel points were assessed. GPS coordinates were collected for each site. Form 1, Hazard Assessment-Field Form, was used to assess individual fuel points. The fuel points occur within the boundaries of BLM-managed land. A Structure Triage Matrix form was used to assess homes in order to remain consistent with data already collected by the county fire department.

Interviews

Brooke Levy conducted interviews with the following individuals:

- Rob Yingling, Johnson County Planner
- Tom Lohse, Johnson County Fire Board, District #1
- Bill Haagenson, Wyoming State Forestry
- Steve Kozisek, Johnson County Sheriff
- Marilyn Connolly, Johnson County Commissioner
- Tom “Tiddle” Camino, Johnson County Fire Warden

Public Meeting

A public meeting was held on Thursday, August 21, 2003 at the Johnson County Fire Hall, Buffalo, WY, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Prior to the public meeting, a separate meeting was held at 5:30 pm and included local, county, state, and federal agencies. The scope of the BLM project was explained to participants.

The following individuals attended the pre-meeting:

Steve Hannan	BLM, Buffalo Field Office
Jim Sparks	BLM, Buffalo Field Office
Bill Haagenson	Wyoming State Forestry
Marilyn Connolly	Johnson County Commissioner
Dennis Stenger	BLM
Tom Lohse	Johnson County Fire District #1
Tiddle Camino	Johnson County Fire District #2
Nikki Lohse	LDCD
Phil Gonzales	NRCS
Jeff Bass	Dynamac Corporation
Brooke Levy	Dynamac Corporation

At 6:30 pm, local residents began to arrive for the meeting. At 6:45 pm, the meeting began. Steve Hannan, BLM, introduced himself and explained why the Billy Creek cabins community was selected by BLM as a Community-At-Risk. Mr. Hannan explained the aspects of the program, and introduced Dynamac Corporation.

Brooke Levy stressed the need to complete the community questionnaire. Ms. Levy addressed questions about Dynamac's qualifications. Ms. Levy also explained the educational material that was available for attendees to take home with them.

Jeff Bass explained the hazard assessment and possible mitigation recommendations. Mr. Bass also explained fire behavior and firefighter planning and response to wildland fires.

Meeting attendees raised questions and concerns about coordination and response of BLM, Forest Service, and the County fire department in the event of a wildland fire. Residents expressed concern about poor coordination efforts and response times.

Attendees also raised questions about grant money that may be available to residents to make firewise improvements on private land. Bill Haagenon, Wyoming State Forestry, and Phil Gonzales, NRCS, discussed cost-share programs available through their respective agencies.

Questions were raised about county building codes. Some attendees voiced their opinions that the county needs to establish more stringent building codes in regards to fire safety.

Future Work

August 25-29 – No work is planned during this week

September 2-4 – Prepare Summaries of all interview, data analysis of fuel and structure surveys, initiate work on draft reports.

September 8-12 – Continue work on draft reports

Problems or Concerns

Nothing to report

The following individuals attended the public meeting:

	Name	Address	Agency
1	Steve Hannan	605 Klondike, Buffalo, WY 82834	BLM
2	Phil Gonzales	760 West Fetterman, Buffalo, WY 82834	NRCS
3	Wes Johnson	P.O. Box 88, Buffalo, WY 82834	SCFC #1
4	Nikki Lohse	760 W. Fetterman, Buffalo, WY 82834	LDCD
5	Tom Lohse	225 S. Wyoming, Buffalo, WY 82834	Johnson County Fire District #1
6	Dennis Stenger	1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY 82834	BLM
7	Jim Sparks	1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY 82834	BLM
8	Tiddle Camino	655 N. Lobban, Buffalo, WY 82834	Johnson County Fire District #2
9	Bill Haagenon	600 Veterans' Lane, Buffalo, WY 82834	Wyoming State Forestry
10	Marilyn Connolly	859 N. Delmet, Buffalo, WY 82834	Johnson County Commissioner
11	Al and Jane Weeden	P.O. Box 1040, Buffalo, WY 82834	
12	Ron Wright	3981 Swingle, Casper, WY 82604	
13	Susan Souldine	8 Pheasant Ct., Gillette, WY 82718	
14	Larry Long	104 Overland Trail, Gillette, WY 82716	
15	Olin and Lynne Turner	Box 345, Buffalo, WY 82834	
16	Rob Yingling	76 N. Main St., Room 204, Buffalo, WY 82834	
17	Don Kraeh	P.O. Box 277, Buffalo, WY 82834	
18	Willie Myers	46 Sunset, Buffalo, WY 82834	
19	Gerald Fink	121 Norma Drive, Buffalo, WY 82834	
20	Steve Kozisek	639 Fort, Buffalo, WY 82834	
21	Adrian Preator	Box 94, Burlington, WY 82411	
22	Tom Covert	P.O. Box 2106, Casper, WY 82602	
23	Bruce Hepp	540 Walters St., Buffalo, WY 82834	